Renewal of Passes issued to Freedom fighters

804. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Railways had issued free Passes to freedom fighters last year;

(b) if so, whether these passes were meant only for a certain specified period or for life; and

(c) if for life, what are the reasons for not renewing the same after the expiry of one year or specified period in case of some delay in applying for the renewal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) According to the scheme finalised in consultation with the Ministry of Home Affairs, who are bearing the cost of these passes, passes were meant only for a specified period, namely 1 year, for the purpose of issue/renewal.

(c) The last date for grant/renewal of these passes, fixed in consultation with the Ministry of Home Affairs, having been over, the passes cannot be renewed/issued now.

Poor condition of National Highways in Orissa

805. SHRI BASUDEB MOHAPATRA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the poor condition of National Highways passing through Orissa;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) what steps Government have taken in this regard; and

(d) whether Government propose to make some more roads in the State as National Highways in the current financial year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) to (c) The condition of National Highways including those in Orissa is generally traffic worthy. Their development is a continuous process and improvements are carried out subject to availability of funds.

(d) No, Sir.

Development of Jharsuguda Airstrip

806. SHRI BASUDEB MOHAPATRA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to develop the Jharsuguda airstrip in Orissa; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Development of Paradip Port with the help of Hyundai Corporation of South Korea

807. SHRI BASUDEB MOHAPATRA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Hyundai Corporation of South Korea has submitted a detailed project for the integrated development of Paradip Port;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government of Orissa and Railways have submitted

their detailed project reports for the development of Mines and Railway lines to be linked with the Port; and

(d) what would be the total estimated cost of the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) and (b) M/s. Hyundai Corporation of South Korea have submitted an interim report which does not contain any cost estimates. They will submit the final report after they have received the comments of various agencies.

(c) The Goverment of Orissa have submitted the Detailed Project Report (DPR) for the development of mines in Orissa. The Ministry of Railways have updated the Detailed Project Report prepared earlier for construction of a new Railway line between Daitari and Banspani but environmental clearance is to be obtained by them.

(d) As the final DPR has not been submitted the question does not arise.

Setting up of Home for destitute women

808. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up Homes for destitute women at the out-skirts of Delhi and to use Bapnu Ghar as Socio-economic Aid Centre; if so, what are the details thereof;

(b) whether any complaint has been lodged with Government regarding mismanagment and loss of funds in the various destitute women's Homes in the country;

(c) how many Homes are running effective vocational trainings and the details thereof; and

(d) what is the fund allocation to Bapnu Ghar and other Homes in the country during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) A voluntary organisation named Chetna, Legal Advisory, Women and Child Welfare Society, have informed this Department that the All India Womens' Conference was not running the short stay home in New Delhi as per the guidelines issued by Government of India for the scheme of Short-Stay Homes for women and girls.

(c) Forty-one short stay homes are giving vocational training in trades of Craft, Knitting, Tailoring, Embroidery etc.

(d) During the last three years, the Department had sanctioned an amount of Rs. 171.61 lakhs for maintenance of short stay homes in the country, out of which Rs. 1.39 lakhs was given for Bapnu Ghar.

Cargo Reservation for Indian Shipping Companies

809. SHRI PRITHIBI MAJHI: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any decision to enforce cargo reservation for Indian Shipping Companies; and

(b) whether Government have enforced containerisation; and if so, what are the broad features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Government have not enforced containerisation.